

Leaf Collection Program

Collection Time:

The City of Mount Vernon collects leaves for 2 weeks in the spring and 7 weeks in the fall. Collection dates for the spring are typically the last 2 weeks in April. Collection in the fall generally starts the first full week of October and runs until Thanksgiving. Adverse weather conditions could impact these dates.

Route:

Leaf collection routes are as follows. The leaf vacuum trailer will start Monday of each collection week in the southwest quadrant then move to the southeast, from there it will move to the northeast and finish in the northwest quadrant. It will take roughly 1-2 days per quadrant depending on leaf load that week. If the vacuum truck is ahead of schedule it will move to the next quadrant ahead of schedule. Please look at the city website for updates on vacuum trailer locations for that collection week.

Reasons for Delays:

1. Weather delays, rain or snow could delay leaf pickup.
2. Equipment breakdowns could delay leaf pickup.
3. Heavy leaf drop could impact leaf pickup in your quadrant. If the vacuum trailer is behind it will finish all quadrants of town prior to restarting the route on the southwest quadrant.

We ask for your cooperation if we are experiencing delays do to any of the above. Make sure you check our city website along with our social media outlets to see current leaf vac location prior to contacting city hall. <https://www.cityofmtvernon-ia.gov/>

Leaf Collection Preparation

1. All leaves must be raked to city right of way between curb and sidewalk.
2. Leaves cannot be further than 10-feet back from the curb. The suction hose will not reach.
3. Leaves should be placed behind the curb in long rows and not in the street.
4. Please combine your leaves in sizeable piles. It slows crews to work with many small piles.
5. Leaves should be free of sticks, brush, yard waste and foreign debris.
6. Leaf piles should be clear of parked cars.
7. Leaves should be piled minimum 5 foot from obstacles such as sign post, trees, utility poles, and mail boxes.

Reasons for No Leaf Collection

Any violations of the above Leaf Collection Preparation could result in a violation notice and/or the refusal of service.

Additional Leaf Collection Options:

If you have a minimal amount of leaves, we recommend you utilize our yard waste pickup option with Wapsi Waste. From March 15th to November 20th yard waste can be set curb side on your

normal trash pickup day with a garbage tag attached. Garbage tags can be purchased at city hall or local stores. Yard waste must be placed in a liner-less 33-gallon rigid trash can 10 feet away from your trash can. Yard waste must be free of trash with a trash tag attached, *no plastic bags*.

Coming in the Summer of 2020 yard waste will be accepted at the new public works site Monday-Friday 7:00 am to 3:30 pm **BY APPOINTMENT** with the exception of city recognized holidays. Weekend drop off will not be available.

Acceptable yard waste is grass clippings, leaves, pinecones, pine needles, fallen fruit, brush, garden plants, tree trimmings, bark, flowers, potted plants (no pots) and pumpkins.

Not accepted food waste and trimmings, nuts, animal waste, rocks or building materials, sod and dirt, bags (paper or plastic).